

# ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



*Anchorage Terminal Reserve, Anchorage, Alaska*

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

May 2004

## Public Comments Invited on an Environmental Agreement Between EPA and the Alaska Railroad Corporation

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites public comment on a proposed agreement with the Alaska Railroad Corporation. This legal agreement is called an Administrative Order on Consent, or AOC. The 15-day public comment period ends **June 4, 2004**, but may be extended by another 15 days upon public request.

Contamination is present at the Anchorage Terminal Reserve, owned by the Alaska Railroad Corporation. Under the agreement, the Alaska Railroad will complete a study of its property—with EPA oversight—to look for potential threats to human health and the environment.

The *Remedial Investigation/RCRA Facility Investigation* will determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The Railroad also will do a *Feasibility Study/Corrective Measures Study* to look at different options for cleaning up the site, if necessary.

The proposed agreement can be viewed at these locations:

Alaska Resources Library and  
Information Service  
Anchorage Terminal Reserve  
Information Repository  
3150 C Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99503-3916

EPA Region 10  
Records Center, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1200 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

On the Internet at [www.epa.gov/r10earth](http://www.epa.gov/r10earth)  
Click on Index, then click on A for Anchorage  
Terminal Reserve.

Send your written comments, postmarked by  
June 4, to:

Jacques Gusmano  
U.S. EPA,  
222 West 7th Ave. #19,  
Anchorage, AK 99513-7588.

If enough people express interest in a public meeting, EPA will hold a meeting in the community. To request a public meeting, contact Jacques Gusmano at (907) 271-1271 by **May 28, 2004**.

## Site Background

The federal government transferred the Alaska Railroad to the state-owned Alaska Railroad Corporation in 1985. The Corporation owns the property known as Anchorage Terminal Reserve, which includes a rail yard and other properties leased to tenants. The area covers about 600 acres. Much of the land is near Ship Creek, in an industrial area of Anchorage. It is bordered by Cook Inlet to the west, Elmendorf Air Force Base to the north, and downtown Anchorage to the south.

The rail yard includes a track system, repair buildings, a fueling area, a steaming rack, warehouses, and offices. Activities at the rail yard have included fueling, painting, steam cleaning, freight loading, and maintenance work on locomotives and rail cars. Properties outside the rail yard have been leased to tenants for many different types of business. These include power plants, trucking and transit operations, fuel storage, auto salvage, and many others. There are about 137 parcels under lease.

Both the rail yard and the properties outside the rail yard have had many documented environmental problems. Concerns have included solid waste handling, hazardous waste storage, seeps to Ship Creek, spills, dumping, and elevated contaminant levels in soils, groundwater and sediments.

### The Laws

The Administrative Order on Consent is being issued under two laws: CERCLA and RCRA.

CERCLA is the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. CERCLA gives EPA broad authority to require responsible parties to investigate and clean up polluted sites.

RCRA is the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. It is the primary federal statute regulating the control and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes.

♦ *Add your voice to decisions about your community* ♦

## Mailing List Changes?

People on our mailing list can expect to receive occasional brief updates from EPA.  
Please fill out this form to request changes to our mailing list.

- ☐ Delete me from the mailing list.
- ☐ Make changes to my address.
- ☐ Add me to your e-mail list, and delete me from the regular mailing list.
- ☐ Add me to your e-mail list, and keep me on the regular mailing list.

**Mail to:**

**Andrea Lindsay**  
U.S. EPA Region 10  
1200 Sixth Ave. ECO-081  
Seattle, WA 98101-1128

**Or e-mail:**

[lindsay.andrea@epa.gov](mailto:lindsay.andrea@epa.gov)

Yes, please add me to the Anchorage Terminal Reserve mailing list.

**Name:**

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**Address:**

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**E-mail:**

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## For More Information

### Documents

Documents about this site can be viewed at the Alaska Resources Library and Information Service, Anchorage Terminal Reserve Project Information Repository (See page 1 for address and website).



Alternative formats are available upon request.  
Please call Andrea Lindsay to request reasonable accommodation. TTY: (800) 877-8339.

## Contacts

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(206) 553-2851 or (800) 424-4372 x2851

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(206) 553-1896 or (800) 424-4372 x1896

*ANCHORAGE TERMINAL RESERVE*  
*ANCHORAGE, ALASKA*  
*MAY 2004*



**This EPA Fact Sheet** introduces you to environmental activities at the **Anchorage Terminal Reserve** in Anchorage, Alaska.

Inside, you will find:

- ◆ An opportunity to comment on a legal agreement
- ◆ Background information about the Anchorage Terminal Reserve and
- ◆ Ways to get more information